

Providence April 18/60
Dear Garrison

48. Our State election
was held yesterday, and
painful to behold the cor-
ruption ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~party~~ by the Dem-
ocratic or Sprague party,
that money was sent here
from New York & Washington
there can be no doubt, to
aid in breaking down
the opposition to James Buchanan's
administration.
Mr. Peabody the Repub-
lican candidate is a man
of good morals, ^a temperance
man and a man of wealth
and liberal to his friends.
Mr. Sprague is the stepson
of Mr. Sprague Gov of the State
in 1838 and defeated the

next year and afterwards
Senator in Congress. He was
a desperate politician, His
instant ⁱⁿ hostility to James F.
Simmons 1850 caused to buy
on bribe 12 whig members
of the assembly to vote for
Gen James Democrat for
Senator in Congress, and
his last political act in 1851
was to ^{carry} spend some \$6000
to the election in his own
town (Warwick) ready to help
himself and friends to seats in
the General ^{assembly}, and died five
months after, and present Gov
elect had \$100,000 on deposit
and certain men were
authorized to draw any sums
wanted, ~~but~~ without limitations
well \$28,000; four thousand
dolls for each ward in this

city, \$12,000 for Warwick
and to an \$5,000 and \$3,000
for smaller towns. I regret
that a few colored voters took
money for their votes but a
larger part of them were
highly indignant, and
spurned the bribe. The amo-
unt of money expended by
the Republican party was
large but trifling to that
thrown out by the Spangue
party. Spague had the Run-
votes the Gamblers votes, and
every debauched den in the
city, and a crowd of all a num-
ber of orthodox deacons and
one is elected to the Assembly
for this city on the Spague
ticket, but the heart sickening
day has passed and such a
one it is to be hoped may

not soon ~~be~~ come
again. The penalty for
buying a vote in this State
is Five hundred dollars fine
and six months impris-
onment. The Governor
must have bought 3000
votes, certainly, or men in
his employ — and his
election ought to be declared
void, but probably will
not — & the corruption of
Politics

Respectfully

A. Fairbanks